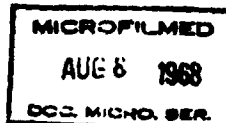


A U S T R I A

26 May 1952 (P/23737)

SUBJECT: C Dr. Emerich OFFCZAREK

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1. Dr. Emerich OFFCZAREK was a member of the illegal Austrian SS and, prior to 1938, active with Vienna illegal SD. During the war he was transferred to Abwehr; first he held a second-rank position at Bratislava, later he became active with the Russian auxiliary volunteer troops where he was in charge of III F affairs.

2. Probably in spring 1947 OFFCZAREK joined the G organization. His employment was not so much based on his experience, since his former activity had only covered a small section of intelligence work, but was only due to his personal acquaintanceship with Dr. Kurt KOLLER, member of the G-organization's operational staff.

Since, at least at such time, illegal SD activity in Austria was considered by the G-organization a disrepute rather than a recommendation, OFFCZAREK managed to have a friend certify that he had been engaged in the preparations to the 20-July attempt on Hitler. Actually he was not involved in such conspiracy.

3. Dr. OFFCZAREK then became chief of an intelligence group operating in Austria with the following chores:

- a- Austrian economy
- b- KPOs
- c- Red Army in Austria
- d- Yugoslavia

OFFCZAREK established his headquarters first at St. Florian near Linz, later at Salzburg.

4. At first the OFFCZAREK group was immediately subordinated to the Munich center of the G-organization and was coordinated to the MALLNER-DOHNAL group. Soon a keen competition

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developed between OFFCZAREK and MALLNER; at Munich they frequently accused each other of furnishing forged reports and employing unreliable collaborators. MALLNER finally succeeded in bribing an agent active with OFFCZAREK's Salzburg office to regularly inform him on OFFCZAREK's steps. Although this fact became known to OFFCZAREK, he, for opportunism, remained on friendly terms with MALLNER. MALLNER got OFFCZAREK completely under his influence and, to a small extent, let him participate in his obscure business transactions as to keep him under moral pressure.

5. Late in 1947 OFFCZAREK appointed his brother-in-law Martin SCHMIDT his organization manager. Though SCHMIDT, originating from Silesia and a forester by profession, had no experience in intelligence affairs, he soon managed to bring OFFCZAREK's office completely under his control. OFFCZAREK himself became his subject, and SCHMIDT was to be considered the actual chief of the group. SCHMIDT, a brutal and mischievous misanthrope, is very attached to his family living in North Germany and caused OFFCZAREK to support his family with considerable sums.

6. In August 1949 the OFFCZAREK group became affiliated to the MALLNER group; MALLNER became OFFCZAREK's superior. OFFCZAREK's personnel and budget were curtailed.

7. Under SCHMIDT's influence the OFFCZAREK group now mainly specialized on counter intelligence and KIOs. SCHMIDT organized the shadowing of single persons, even members of his own group, by using special agents.

The G-organization staff considered OFFCZAREK's work useful but stated that it never showed extraordinary results.

8. In July 1951 the MALLNER and OFFCZAREK groups were dissolved. Through Dr. ROLLER (see para.2) OFFCZAREK managed nevertheless to become re-activated with the G-Organization. According to his own statements made to a number of collaborators, his new activity only covers III F affairs. The following facts however seem to indicate that he was given a number of additional chores:

- a- He still employs one evaluator for Austrian internal affairs and economy.
- b- He employs and frequently visits collaborators in Carinthia who probably furnish him information on Yugoslavia.

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- c- Until the end of 1951 he received information on KPOs, SPOs and industries in Styria (another Styrian intelligence line had been cut off previously).
- d- The Vienna and Linz special agents for the supervision of single persons had not been dismissed.
- e- OFFICZAREK repeatedly stated his intention to resume in fall 1952 his activity on I affairs.

9. Unknown for what reasons OFFICZAREK and SCHMIDT maintain connections with former collaborators they had been warned as being dubious. These are:

- a- Dr. Kurt WESSELY, who in 1948 was employed with the OFFICZAREK group, as an expert for economy, domestic policy and personnel affairs. WESSELY, upon Soviet pressure, probably works for Soviet intelligence: Soviet agents Dr. Friedrich THALER, of Ruffstein, and Dr. Otto BEGUS approached WESSELY possibly already in 1948 requesting from him collaboration with Soviet intelligence; as a compensation they offered friendly treatment of his Hungarian-born wife living in Hungary (until late in 1949) and her relatives. WESSELY informed OFFICZAREK accordingly and stated that he had rejected such offer. In 1949 his wife moved to Austria without difficulties and still in 1950 had several telephone talks with relatives in Hungary; allegedly she also visited Budapest once or twice in 1950/51. Upon advice by the G-Organization OFFICZAREK dismissed WESSELY, probably early in 1951. Despite such fact WESSELY is still being employed by OFFICZAREK as economic and possibly political expert.
- b- Prof. Dr. Kurt KNOLL, former Rector of Vienna Hochschule fuer Welthandel, who in 1948 was employed by OFFICZAREK for evaluating reports on Austrian economy and domestic policy. In 1950 OFFICZAREK gave him an apartment in his house on Mondsee. Dr. Kurt KNOLL jr., son of the above, who is employed with a VOEST-affiliated trade enterprise where he is also active as Communist Betriebsrat member, is used by OFFICZAREK for collecting and checking information on KPOs, Prof. KNOLL sr. acting as intermediary between his son and OFFICZAREK. Dr. KNOLL jr. uses to qualify the reports he has to check as exaggerated or forged. Probably he passes respective reports on to his Communist superiors. When returning from a trip to Vienna early in 1951, Prof. Kurt KNOLL sr. was arrested by the Soviets at the zone border near Innsbruck, but was released after a several-hours investigation and brought to Innsbruck by automobile.

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- c- Rudolf LUKESCH, director with Lins VOEST; when in 1949 OFFCZAREK was informed by reliable source that LUKESCH was a secret Communist reassurer, OFFCZAREK did neither check such information nor pass it on to Munich. As far as is known, OFFCZAREK holds personal contact with LUKESCH.
- d- Franz KAIN, with whom OFFCZAREK, according to the latter's own statement, is personally acquainted since 1946. KAIN, editor with the Upper Austrian Communist daily "Neue Zeit" and a close collaborator of Upper Austrian KPÖ Landesleiter Franz HAIDER, is considered an ardent Communist. OFFCZAREK however claims to know that at heart KAIN opposes Communism. KAIN according to a remark by OFFCZAREK, was not suitable for intelligence work. OFFCZAREK remarked in 1947 that he could become a Communist party member under a cover name at any time; this was possibly based on his contact with KAIN.

10. When SCHMIDT established a card file on all members of the OFFCZAREK group, OFFCZAREK gave his collaborators his word of honor not to pass on the informants' names to other persons but to keep them strictly secret for his own use only. Disregarding such promise Martin SCHMIDT disclosed to his special agents (see para. 7) the clear names for checking their personal data and biographies. A report on HALLNER-DONAL worked out by one of OFFCZAREK's collaborators and handed over to OFFCZAREK under the condition that it be kept strictly secret, was passed on to HALLNER who from the wording found out the identity of its author.